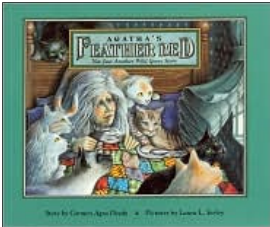




Recommended Children's Literature to Complement Population Education Activities

There are many noteworthy children's books containing themes about environmental stewardship and social justice. Here is a selected bibliography of those works of children's literature that we recommend to enhance the teaching of some of Population Connection's activities for the K-6 classroom.



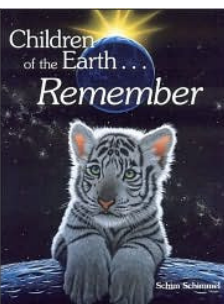
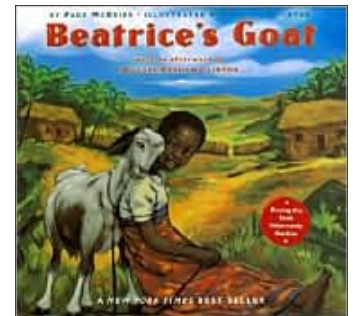
Agatha's Feather Bed: Not Just Another Wild Goose Story by Carmen Agra Deedy (author) and Laura L. Seely (illustrator); Peachtree Publishers, 1994. 28 pp.

When Agatha buys a new feather bed and six angry naked geese show up to get their feathers back, the incident reminds her to think about where things come from.

Activity Matches: [Needs vs. Wants](#); [Mining for Chocolate](#)

Beatrice's Goat by Page McBrier (author) and Lori Lohstoeter (illustrator); Atheneum Books for Young Readers, 2001. 40 pp.

Based on the true account of one family in Uganda who received aid from Heifer Project International, this inspirational book tells of how a goat changed a family's life for the better, including enabling the children to attend school.



Activity Matches: [Educating Wanjiku](#); [Living on \\$500 a Year](#)

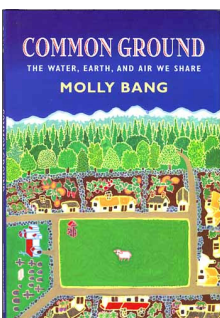
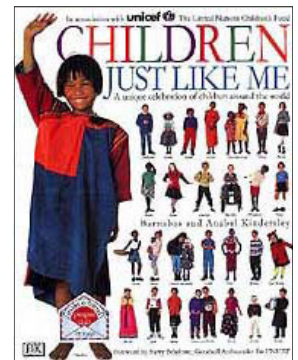
Children of the Earth...Remember by Schim Schimmel; NorthWord Press; 1997. 22 pp.

Here is a tender lesson of sharing and protecting the Earth, enhanced with stunning artwork. Helps young children understand how we are related to other living things.

Activity Match: [Web of Life](#)

Children Just Like Me by Anabel and Barnabas Kindersley; Dorling Kindersley (in association with UNICEF), 1995. 80 pp.

Through hundreds of photographs and detailed descriptions of everyday life, kids learn about the homes, schools, customs, families, clothing, experiences and dreams of their peers around the world.



Activity Matches: [Food for Thought](#); [Educating Wanjiku](#)

Common Ground: The Water, Air and Earth We Share by Molly Bang; Scholastic, Inc., 1997. 32 pp.

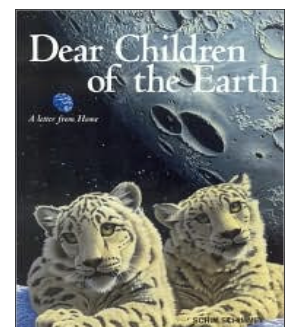
This parable about sheep and the Commons where they graze demonstrates the impacts of our daily actions and the value of working together to preserve common ground.

Activity Matches: [Something for Everyone](#); [Go Fish!](#); [For the Common Good](#)

Dear Children of the Earth: A Letter from Home by Schim Schimmel; NorthWord Press; 1994. 30 pp.

Mother Earth writes a letter telling people about herself and asking them to take care of her for themselves and for all living creatures.

Activity Match: [Lend a Hand to the Earth](#)

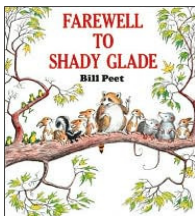
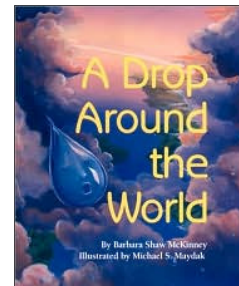




A Drop Around the World by Barbara Shaw McKinney (author) and Michael S. Maydak (illustrator); Dawn Publications (CA), 1998. 32 pp.

An "out of sight" journey from Maine to Mumbai, with just one raindrop as it touches plant, animal, and human life all around the world. Traveling with Drop, readers see the world, from solid, liquid, and vaporous viewpoints.

Activity Matches: [Water, Water Everywhere](#); [Everything is Connected](#)



Farewell to Shady Glade by Bill Peet; Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 1981. 48 pp.

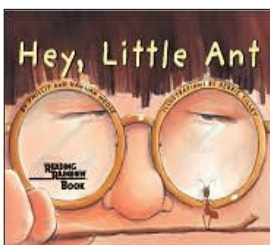
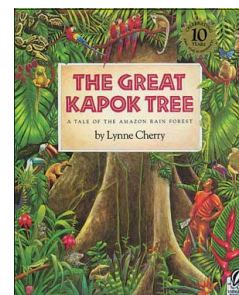
Gentle tale about a woodland community that must find a new home when urban development encroaches on their home.

Activity Matches: [Timber!](#); [A World of Difference](#); [Our Town](#); [Pondering Pandas](#)

The Great Kapok Tree: A Tale of the Amazon Forest by Lynne Cherry; Harcourt, Brace and Company, 1990.

An inspired look at what the Kapok tree means to the creatures that live in it and what rainforests mean to the world's ecology.

Activity Matches: [Timber!](#), [A World of Difference](#)



Hey, Little Ant by Phillip and Hannah Hoose (authors) and Debbie Tilley (illustrator); Tricycle Press; 1998. 32 pp.

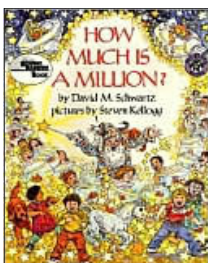
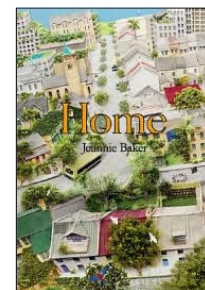
"Hey, little ant." So begins a conversation between a young child and the ant trembling in the shadow of his sneaker. This playful story brings up questions about ethics and peer pressure, encouraging the very youngest citizens to decide for themselves: to squish . . . or not to squish?

Activity Match: [Eco Ethics](#)

Home by Jeannie Baker; HarperCollins Publishers, 2004. 32 pp.

This wordless picture book observes the changes in a neighborhood from before a girl is born until she is an adult, as it first decays and then is renewed by the efforts of the residents. A great complement to Baker's book, *Window*.

Activity Match: [Our Town](#)



How Much is a Million? by David M. Schwartz (author) and Steven Kellogg (illustrator.); Scholastic Books, 1985. 40 pp.

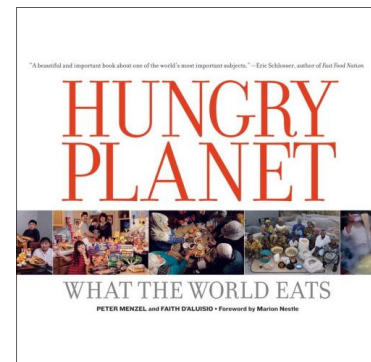
Through imaginative illustrations, *How Much Is A Million?* strives to provide children with tangible ways to grasp what exactly a million (and a billion) of something might look like.

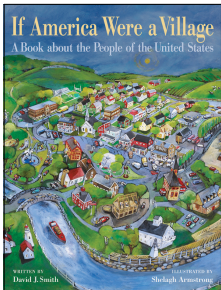
Activity Matches: [Measuring a Million](#); [Pop Riddles](#)

Hungry Planet: What the World Eats by Peter Menzel (photographer) and Faith D'Aluisio (author); Material World Books and Ten Speed Press; 2005. 287 pp.

The creative team behind the best-selling *Material World* presents a photographic study of families from around the world, revealing what people eat during the course of one week. Each family's profile includes a detailed description.

Activity Matches: [Earth: The Apple of Our Eye](#); [The Hunger Banquet](#); [Food for Thought](#)





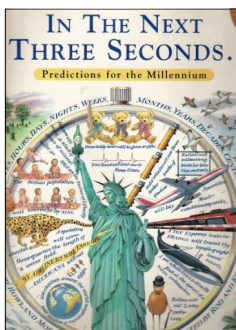
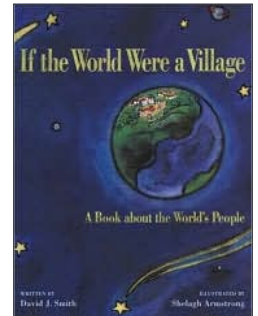
If America Were a Village: A Book about the People of the United States by David J. Smith (author) and Shelagh Armstrong (illustrator); Kids Can Press Ltd; 2009. 32 pp.

This timely follow-up to *If the World Were a Village* offers a thought-provoking perspective on the people who make up America, using the simple metaphor of a village of 100 people.

Activity Matches: [Population Clock in the USA](#); [USA Population Circle](#); [A Nation of Immigrants](#); [The Good Old Days](#)

If the World Were a Village: A Book about the World's People by David J. Smith (author) and Shelagh Armstrong (illustrator); Kids Can Press Ltd; 2000.

Using the metaphor of a village of 100 people, the author presents global statistics on demographics, culture, education, lifestyle and religion that all ages can understand.



Activity Match: [Food for Thought](#)

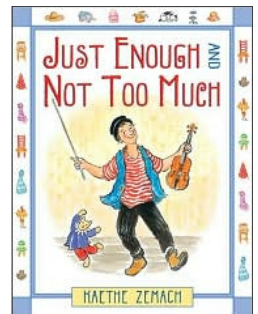
In the Next Three Seconds. . . by Rowland Morgan (author), Rod and Kira Josey (illustrators); Puffin Books, 1999.

A collection of intriguing forecasts based on statistical information. Morgan presents a variety of things that could occur in 3 seconds, minutes, hours, days, nights, weeks, and so on to 3,000,000 years.

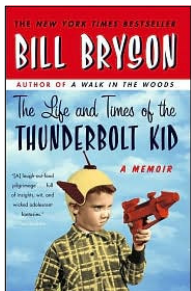
Activity Match: [Population Clock](#)

Just Enough and Not Too Much by Kaethe Zemach; Scholastic, Inc., 2003. 32 pp.

Simon the fiddler decides he needs more -- more chairs, more hats, more stuffed animals--until he discovers that his house is too full and must think of a way to get back to having just enough.



Activity Match: [Needs vs. Wants](#)



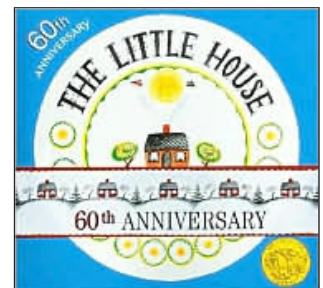
The Life and Times of the Thunderbolt Kid by Bill Bryson; Broadway Books, 2006. 288 pp.

From one of the most beloved and bestselling authors in the English language, a vivid, nostalgic and utterly hilarious memoir of growing up in the middle of the United States in the middle of the last century.

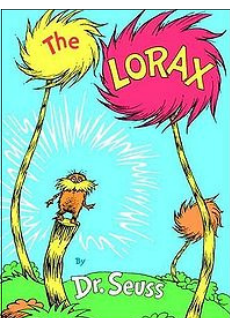
Activity Match: [The Good Old Days](#)

The Little House by Virginia Lee Burton; Houghton Mifflin Co., 1942. 44 pp.

This Caldecott Medal winner from the author of *Mike Mulligan and His Steam Shovel* tells the story of a cozy country home that passes through the seasons, becomes engulfed by urban sprawl and is subsequently restored to a suitably rural setting.



Activity Match: [Our Town](#)



The Lorax by Dr. Seuss; Random House; 1971. 70 pp.

Dr. Seuss, speaking through his character the Lorax, warns against mindless progress and the danger it poses to the earth's natural beauty. Children will enjoy the colorful characters and rhyming verse and adults will appreciate the subtle messages about the negative effects of deforestation, habitat destruction, and air and water pollution.

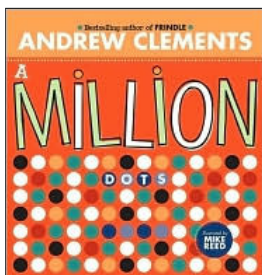
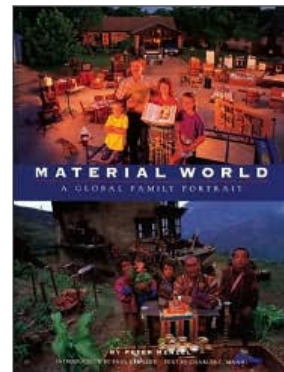
Activity Matches: [Timber!](#); [A World of Difference](#); [Lessons from The Lorax](#)



Material World: A Global Family Portrait by Peter Menzel and Charles C. Mann; Sierra Club Books; 1994. 256 pp.

This is a photographic look at 30 families around the world, their homes and possessions. This coffee-table size book includes brief but compelling narratives and fascinating statistics about these 30 countries, the energy they use, population size, income and more.

Activity Matches: [Food for Thought](#); [The Hunger Banquet](#); [Living on \\$500 a Year](#); [When the Chips Are Down](#); [Energy Imagery](#)



A Million Dots by Andrew Clements (author) and Mike Reed (illustrator); Simon and Schuster; 2006. 48 pp.

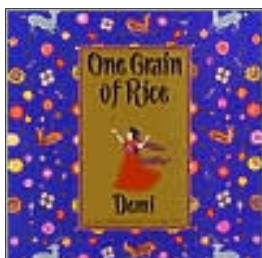
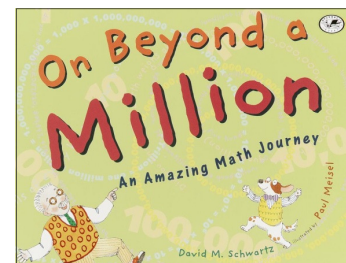
With one million dots printed on its pages, this large-format picture book shows how big a million really is. Along the way, the text and illustrations offer plenty to look at and think about besides the rows and rows of tiny dots, including lots of fun numerical facts.

Activity Matches: [Measuring a Million](#); [Population Riddles](#)

On Beyond a Million: An Amazing Math Journey by David M. Schwartz (author) and Paul Meisel (illustrator); Dragonfly Books; 1999. 32 pp.

This "math journey" progresses exponentially as kids try to keep up with the yield of an out-of-control popcorn machine. Professor X teaches them to count by powers of 10, demonstrating up to a googol. Filled with fun facts.

Activity Matches: [Population Riddles](#); [Measuring a Million](#); [Adding Armadillos](#); [Multiplying Mice](#)



One Grain of Rice: A Mathematical Folktale by Demi; Scholastic Press; 1997. 40 pp.

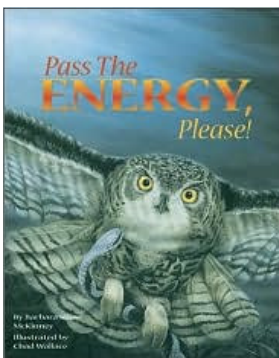
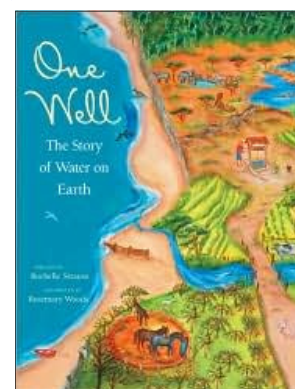
In this traditional tale from India, a reward of one grain of rice doubles day by day into millions of grains of rice when a selfish raja is outwitted by a clever village girl.

Activity Matches: [Population Riddles](#); [Multiplying Mice](#); [Adding Armadillos](#); [On the Double](#)

One Well: The Story of Water on Earth by Rochelle Strauss (author), Rosemary Woods (illustrator); Kids Can Press; 2007, 32 pp.

Every raindrop, lake, underground river and glacier is part of a single global well. Discover the many ways water is used around the world, and what kids can do to protect it.

Activity Match: [Water, Water Everywhere](#)



Pass the Energy, Please! by Barbara Shaw McKinney (author) and Chad Wallace (illustrator); Dawn Publications; 1999. 32 pp.

McKinney presents the ecological food chain in an upbeat rhyming story connecting herbivores, carnivores, insects and plants.

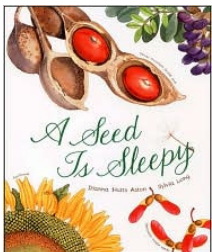
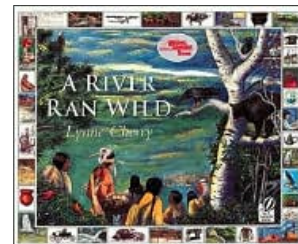
Activity Match: [Web of Life](#)



A River Ran Wild by Lynne Cherry; Harcourt Children's Books; 1992. 40 pp.

Cherry traces the ecological history of New England's Nashua River from a pristine waterway respected by Native Americans to a river polluted in the wake of the Industrial Revolution and then restored by local concerned citizens.

Activity Matches: [Who Polluted the River?](#); [Who Polluted the Potomac?](#)



A Seed is Sleepy by Dianna Hutts Aston (author) and Sylvia Long (illustrator); Chronicle Books, 2007, 40 pp.

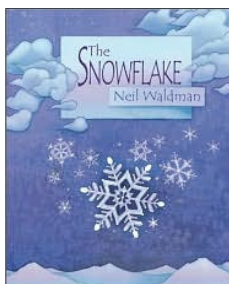
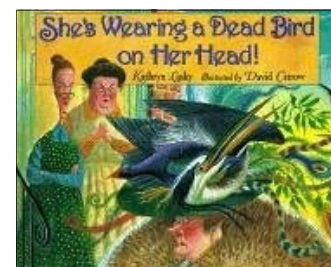
This introduction to seeds and plants uses simple sentences and beautiful illustrations that will stretch children's minds and imaginations. Each spread is devoted to the seed's many attributes.

Activity Match: [Crowding Can Be Seedy](#)

She's Wearing a Dead Bird on Her Head! by Kathryn Lasky (author) and David Crow (illustrator); Hyperion Paperbacks for Children; 1996. 40 pp.

A fictionalized account of the activities of Harriet Hemenway and Minna Hall, who founded the Massachusetts Audubon Society in the late nineteenth-century.

Activity Match: [Eco-Ethics](#)



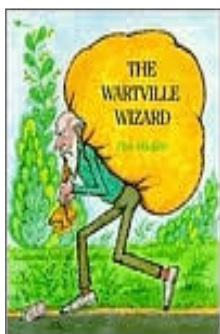
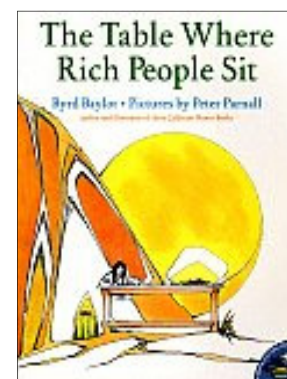
The Snowflake: A Water Cycle Story by Neil Waldman; Millbrook Press; 2003. 32 pp.

This beautifully illustrated book traces the journey of a single droplet of water as it moves and changes throughout one year from snowflake to mountain pond to underground stream to river to irrigation system to cloud to reservoir to city water system to bathroom sink to drain pipe to cloud and back to snowflake.

Activity Matches: [Web of Life](#); [Water, Water Everywhere](#)

The Table Where Rich People Sit by Byrd Baylor (author) and Peter Parnall (illustrator); Simon and Schuster, 1998. 32 pp.

A girl discovers that her impoverished family is rich in things that matter in life, especially being outdoors and experiencing nature.



Activity Match: [The Bare Necessities](#)

The Wartville Wizard by Don Madden; Simon and Schuster, 1993. 32 pp.

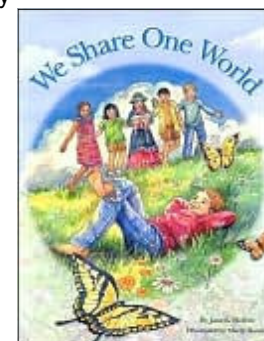
In this humorous ecological tale, an old man fights a town of litterbugs by magically sending each piece of trash to stick on the person who dropped it.

Activity Match: [Lend a Hand to the Earth](#)

We Share One World by Jane E. Hoffelt (author) and Marty Husted (illustrator); Illumination Arts Publishing Company; 2004. 32 pp.

A beautiful poem that highlights the global connections among children around the world.

Activity Match: [Earth Cookie](#)

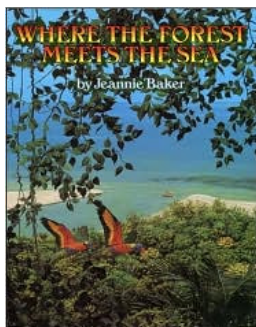
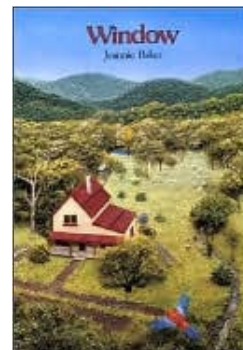




Window by Jeannie Baker; HarperCollins Publishers; 1991. 32 pp.

Window chronicles the events and changes in a young boy's life in his environment, from babyhood to adulthood, through wordless scenes observed from the window of his room.

Activity Matches: [More or Less](#); [Everything is Connected](#); [Growing Pains in Texas Hill Country](#)



Where the Forest Meets the Sea by Jeannie Baker; HarperCollins Publishers, 1988. 32 pp.

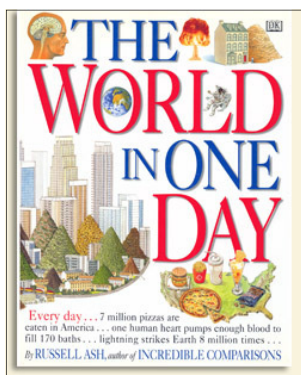
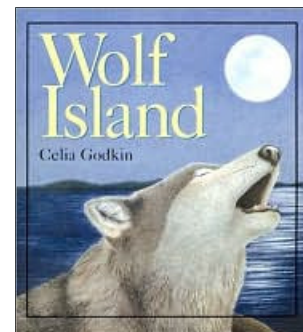
On a camping trip in an Australian rain forest with his father, a young boy thinks about the history of the plant and animal life around him and wonders about their future.

Activity Matches: [Who Polluted the River?](#); [Growing Pains in Texas Hill Country](#); [Timber!](#); ["A World of Difference"](#)

Wolf Island by Celia Godkin; Scientific American Books for Young Readers, WH Freeman and Co., 1993. 40 pp.

Set on an island in Northern Ontario, the *Wolf Island* story, based on an actual event, is a moving chronicle of what happens when the highest link in a food chain is removed. The resultant population growth, food shortage, and starvation affect every member of the chain.

Activity Matches: [Web of Life](#); [Cougar Hunt](#)



The World in One Day by Russell Ash; DK Publishing, 1997. 32 pp.

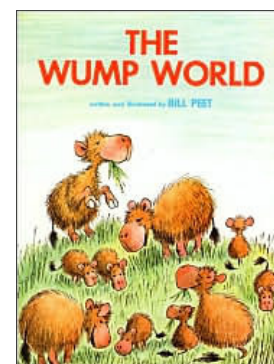
This eye-catching, oversize book looks at what happens during the course of a 24-hour day on earth. From the global to the microscopic, scale illustrations place a myriad of amazing facts in an accessible perspective, including information on births, deaths, wildlife, food consumption and waste production.

Activity Matches: [On the Double](#); [Population Clock](#); [Earth: The Apple of Our Eye](#); ["World Population DVD"](#)

The Wump World by Bill Peet by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 1981. 48 pp.

The Wumps lead a bucolic life until one day they are invaded by the Pollutians, who have overdeveloped and destroyed their own world. After the Pollutians have left behind a mess on Wump World, the Wumps need to rebuild from their remaining patch of green.

Activity Match: [More or Less](#)



Compiled by Population Connection, 2009. Contributors: Cathy Knoop, Susan Salterberg, Ron Lancaster and Luann Bridle.

All of the teaching activities listed on the preceding pages can be found in one or more of Population Connection's curriculum resources. Many are available free from our website or on the *Teaching Population: Hands-on Activities* CD-ROM distributed at Population Connection workshops nationwide. The charts below provides a locator guide for each activity. The chart on the following page provides information on how to obtain the teaching resources.

Population Connection Activity	Grade Level	Source
Adding Armadillos	2-5	CP, TP
The Bare Necessities	K-2	SSW
Cougar Hunt	3-6	CP, PP, SSW, TP, WEB
Crowding Can Be Seedy	K-3	CP, SSW, TP, WEB
Earth Cookie	K-2	SSW, TP
Earth: The Apple of Our Eye	3-12	CP, EM, NM, PP, TP, WEB
Eco Ethics	6-12	NM, PP, TP, WEB
Educating Wanjiku	6-8	PP, TP
Energy Imagery	3-6	CP, TP
Everything is Connected	6-12	NM, PP, TP
Food for Thought	6-12	EM, PP, TP, WEB
For the Common Good	6-12	PP, TP
Go Fish!	K-2	SSW, TP, WEB
The Good Old Days	6-12	USA, TP
Growing Pains in Texas Hill Country	6-12	EM, PP, TP
The Hunger Banquet	6-12	EM, TP
Lend a Hand to the Earth	K-2	SSW
Lessons from the Lorax	2-5	CP
Living on \$500 a Year	9-12	EM, TP, WEB
Measuring a Million	5-8	CP, MP, PP, TP
Mining for Chocolate	3-6	CP, PP, TP, WEB
More or Less	1-5	CP, TP, WEB
Multiplying Mice	2-6	CP, TP
A Nation of Immigrants	9-12	USA
Needs vs. Wants	6-12	EM, TP
On the Double	6-12	EM, MP, PP, TP
Our Town	K-2	SSW
Pondering Pandas	2-5	CP
Population Clock	5-8	MP, TP
Population Clock in the USA	5-8	USA, TP
Population Riddles	5-12	CP, PP, TP, WEB
Something for Everyone	K-12	CP, TP
Timber!	3-6	CP, NM, PP, TP
USA Population Circle	3-12	USA, TP
Water, Water Everywhere	3-12	EM, PP, TP
Web of Life	K-2	SSW, TP
When the Chips are Down	3-6	CP, TP
Who Polluted the Potomac?	3-6	PP, TP, WEB
Who Polluted the River?	K-2	SSW, TP
A World of Difference	6-12	MP, PP, TP, WEB

Code	Curriculum Product	Year	Availability
CP	<i>Counting on People: Elementary Population and Environmental Activities</i> (spiral-bound book)	1994	Order from website; \$13
EM	<i>Earth Matters: Studies for Our Global Future</i> , 3rd edition (High school curriculum; CD-ROM)	2009	Order from website; \$15
MP	<i>Multiplying People, Dividing Resources: Global Math Activities</i> (Middle school math/science integration; booklet)	2002	Order from website; \$10
NM	<i>Nuestro Mundo, Nuestro Futuro/Our World, Our Future</i> (Bilingual activities for grades 4-8; booklet)	2000	Order from website; \$4
PP	People and the Planet (Middle school curriculum; CD-ROM)	2004	Order from website; \$13
SSW	<i>Sharing a Small World: Environmental Activities for Young Learners</i> (K-2 activities; booklet)	2002	Order from website; \$5
TP	<i>Teaching Population: Hands-on Activities</i> (K-12 activities; CD-ROM)	2008	Distributed FREE at Population Connection workshops or order from website; \$10
USA	<i>USA at 300 Million</i> (Online lesson plan)	2006	Download activities at www.populationeducation.org ; FREE
WEB	Activities available on Population Education website (K-12)		Download activities at www.populationeducation.org ; FREE